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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/371,916	08/10/1999	JUN LIU	14531.53.4	9837

22913 7590 05/09/2003

WORKMAN NYDEGGER & SEELEY
1000 EAGLE GATE TOWER
60 EAST SOUTH TEMPLE
SALT LAKE CITY, UT 84111

EXAMINER

CHOUDHARY, ANITA

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2153

DATE MAILED: 05/09/2003

12

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/371,916

Applicant(s)

LIU ET AL.

Examiner

Anita Choudhary

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 24 February 2003.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-25 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-25 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 08/10/1999 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

The amendment filed on February 24, 2003 under 37 CFR 1.312 has been entered.

Claims 1, 2, 13-15, and 20-22 have been amended and are presented for further examination.

New claims 23-25 are added.

Claims 1-25 are presented.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-25 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claim 1 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

In claim 1 line 12, it is unclear as to where the incoming data packet is coming from and whether the communication device or processing device is receiving the incoming packet.

Also, claim 1 line 14, states "the address that has been added to the list of addresses", were implying that comparing is being done with one address. Further down the claim 1 at line

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16, "any address that has been added to the list" is stated. This is indefinite and confusing from line 14, because it implies comparing is being down with plural added addresses.

Clarification is requested.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1 and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Huang (US Patent 6,480,488) ~~(in view of Colcy et al (US Patent 6,061,798), hereinafter referred to as Colcy)~~ in further view of Dai et al (US Patent 5,615,340), hereinafter referred to as Dai.

In referring to claim 1 and 21, Huang discloses a system for sorting and transmitting data packets on a LAN from various registered source addresses to destination addresses in a table (Abstract). Huang shows:

- Receiving an out going data packet from a communications device (31n), the out going packet having and address identifying the communication device (source address) (col. 4 line 1-16).
- Comparing the address with a list of address (314) that identify any communication devices that have previously been registered with the processing device (col. 3 lines 12-15, col. 4 lines 38-45).

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- Determining that the address is not included in the list (314) (col. 3 lines 12-21, col. 4 lines 38-50).
- Adding the address to the list of address (314) (col. 3 lines 12-21, col. 4 lines 38, 50).
- Comparing the destination address to the list of address (col. 4 line 20-21).
- If the destination address matches an address that has been added to the list of addresses, then transmitting the incoming data packet to the communication device (col. 4 line 21-32).

Although Huang shows substantial features of the claimed invention, Huang does not explicitly show the receiving and incoming packet with the destination address and filtering of the incoming packet. Nonetheless these features are well known and would have been an obvious modification to the system disclosed by Huang as evidenced by Dai.

In an analogous art, Dai shows a system for having an incoming packet controller for controlling incoming packet transmission. Dai shows:

Receiving incoming data packet having a destination address (col. 4 lines 15-34).

If destination address does not match address in the list of addresses, then filtering the incoming data packet (col. 6 lines 7-36).

Given this feature, a person of ordinary skill in the art would have readily recognized the desirability and advantages of modifying the system disclosed by Huang by employing the features disclosed by Dai, in order to restrict unwanted traffic from using resources on a network.

Claims 2-20 and 22-25 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Huang in view of Dai in, referring to claim 1, and in further view of Parameswaran Nair et al. (US Patent 5,724,356), hereinafter referred to as Nair.

In referring to claim 2 and 16, Although the combined teachings of Huang in view of Dai shows substantial features of the claimed invention, as discussed above, it does not explicitly disclose processing device comprising bridging component. Nonetheless, this feature is well known in the art and would have been an obvious modification to the system disclosed by Huang in view of Dai as disclosed by Nair.

In an analogous art, Nair shows bridge system filtering traffic to restrict unnecessary bridge traffic. Nair shows a processing device (LAN modem) associated with bridging component (fig. 17, col. 3 lines 51-64).

Given this feature, a person of ordinary skill in the art would have readily recognized the desirability and advantages of modifying the system disclosed by Huang in view of Dai by employing the conventional feature of bridges, as shown by Nair, in order to connect two LAN in a wide area network.

In referring to claim 3, Nair shows a buffer for receiving packet on the modem and the packet in buffer being processed by bridge filtering process (col. 25 lines 22-48).

In referring to claim 4, Nair show the act of determining that the destination is not local to the node (col. 23 lines 55- col. 24 lines 10).

In referring to claim 5, Nair show the act of determining that the destination is on the local node and not allowing the packet to cross the bridge to another network therefore transmitting to the local user (col. 23 lines 18-54).

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In referring to claims 6-8 and 19, Huang shows comparing address with a list of address that identify communication device that has previously been registered, and determining that is not included and adding the address to the list (col. 4 lines 38-50).

In referring to claim 9, Huang shows the act of communication device (31n) generating the outgoing packet (col. 4 lines 1-10).

In referring to claim 10, Nair shows the user writing packet to receive buffer, which is a separate buffer for communication device used by bridge, and Nair shows second transmitting buffer (col. 25 lines 23-48).

In referring to claim 11, Huang show the packet being transmitted for the first time to communicate over the network by registering with a packet and the act of adding the address to the entry table on order to be registered (col. 4 lines 38-45).

In referring to claim 12, Nair show remote communication device having modem driver installed and the act of using the modem for first time registration using a packet (col. 4 lines 59-col. 5 line 5).

In referring to claim 13, 20, and 22, Huang shows the receiving a packet having destination address, recognizing whether the address is in the entry table, and transmitting packet upon recognition (col. 4 lines 16-35).

In referring to claim 14, Nair show the act of receiving packet at modem and transmitting packet to modem driver (col. 19 lines 51-63).

In referring to claim 15, in addition to the rejection of claims 1 and 21 above, Nair further shows network using filter associated with LAN modem (col. 5 lines 40-64).

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In referring to claim 17, Nair shows modem hosted by processing device (main controller) internal to the system (fig. 2; col. 5 lines 40-52).

In referring to claim 18, Nair shows the modem external to main controller (fig. 2; col. 5 lines 40-52).

In referring to claim 23-25, Dai shows the destination does not match any address in the list of address and the incoming data packet is filtered or further processing is discontinued (col. 6 lines 7-36).

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

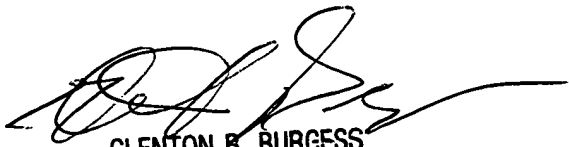
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Anita Choudhary whose telephone number is (703) 305-5268. The examiner can normally be reached on 9am-5pm.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Glenton Burgess can be reached on (703) 305-4792. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 746-7239 for regular communications and (703) 746-7238 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

AC
April 25, 2003



GLENTON B. BURGESS
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100